

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 1673 - HB 1836

March 3, 2018

SUMMARY OF BILL: Increases the maximum authorized truck-tractor and semitrailer length from 53 feet to 57 feet; increases the maximum height from 13.5 feet to 14 feet; and increases the maximum authorized gross vehicle weight on non-interstate highways from 80,000 pounds to 84,000 pounds.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Decrease State Revenue - \$3,196,400/Highway Fund

Other Fiscal Impact – Due to multiple unknown factors, any precise fiscal impact to state or local government expenditures for repairing additional damage caused to roadways as a result of the proposed legislation cannot be reasonably determined at this time.

Assumptions:

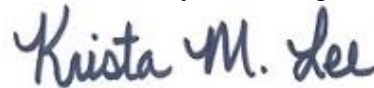
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 55-7-202, the current maximum authorized gross vehicle length on non-interstate highways is 53 feet.
- The proposed legislation will increase the maximum authorized gross vehicle length on non-interstate highways to 57 feet.
- Based on the information provided by the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT), permits are issued allowing operation of vehicles that are over size limits.
- TDOT issues an estimated 8,200 permits annually for vehicles that are over the length of 53 feet but less than 57 feet.
- The proposed legislation will eliminate the current fees TDOT collects for vehicles being over the legal length of 53 feet.
- The permit fee for over-length authorized gross vehicles is a flat rate of \$20.
- The recurring decrease in state revenue to the Highway Fund as a result of increasing the maximum length for authorized truck-tractor and semitrailers is estimated to be \$164,000 (8,200 permits x \$20 fee).
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 55-7-202, the current maximum authorized gross vehicle height on non-interstate highways is 13 feet and five inches.
- The proposed legislation will increase the maximum authorized gross vehicle height on non-interstate highways to 14 feet.

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- Based on the information provided by the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT), TDOT issued an estimated 8,400 permits annually that range between 13 feet and six inches to 14 feet in height.
- The proposed legislation will eliminate the current fees TDOT collects for vehicles being over the legal height of 13 feet six inches.
- The permit fee for over-height authorized gross vehicles is a flat rate of \$20.
- The recurring decrease in state revenue to the Highway Fund as a result of increasing the maximum height for authorized truck-tractor and semitrailers is estimated to be \$168,000 (8,400 permits x \$20 fee).
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 55-7-203, the current maximum authorized gross vehicle weight on non-interstate highways is 80,000 pounds.
- The proposed legislation will increase the maximum authorized gross vehicle weight on non-interstate highways is 84,000 pounds.
- TDOT generates weight fees based on the per ton mile basis, an average permit trip is 175 miles at \$0.06 per ton mile
- Based on the information provided by TDOT, TDOT issued 136,402 permits with a total weight of 5,866,664,480 pounds. The proposed increase to 84,000 pounds would result in a reduction in total weight charged annually by 545,608,000 pounds or 272,804 tons (545,608,000 / 2,000).
- The recurring decrease in state revenue to the Highway Fund as a result of increasing the maximum weight on non-interstate highways is estimated to be \$2,864,442 (272,804 tons x 175 miles x \$0.06).
- The total recurring decrease in state revenue to the Highway Fund as a result of increasing the maximum length, height, and weight of truck-tractor and semitrailers on non-interstate highways is estimated to be \$3,196,442 (\$164,000 + \$168,000 + \$2,864,442).
- Due to multiple unknown factors, any precise fiscal impact to state or local government expenditures from any potential additional damage caused to roadways as a result of an increase in the number of over-sized vehicles cannot be reasonably determined at this time.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

/rbp